

150 yards, moving up a breakaway in wandoo forest. Both of these appeared to be Euros, but positive identification could not be made. Other macropods definitely occurring in the area are the Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus ocydromus* Gould) and the Brush Wallaby (*Protemnodon irma* (Jourdan)).

As information on the geographical distribution of the Euro is sparse, it is not definitely known whether this record represents a definite range extension or a long-established colony, perhaps relict, hitherto undetected by naturalists. However, the observation is important as the group is in need of taxonomic revision. It is surprising to note that this is the first observation on the Euro to appear in this journal. The writer will be interested to hear of further records of this marsupial.

—S. BARKER, Zoology Department, University of Western Australia.

Mammals and Reptiles of King's Park.—This is a supplementary note to the account of the fauna and flora of King's Park which appeared in the *W.A. Naturalist*, 6 (2): 25. Because of their nocturnal habits the mammal fauna of the Park is rarely noticed, the Little Bat (*Eptesicus pumilus*) and Gould's Wattled Bat (*Chalinolobus gouldi*) may be seen flitting between the trees at dusk but the first being small in size usually escapes observation. However, material received at the W.A. Museum from time to time indicates the presence of the Common Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), whilst depredations in adjacent fowl-yards led to the donation of Chuditches or Spotted Native Cats (*Dasyurus geoffroi fortis*) in June 1921 (Rokeby-road), March 1929 (Mounts Bay-road) and November 1930 (Emu Brewery). Smaller forms such as the Mundarda or Pigmy Possum (*Cercartetus eoneinus*) and the Noolbenger or Honey Possum (*Tarsipes spenserae*) are most likely present as a specimen of the latter was found drowned in a washtub in a house at the top of Nicholson-road in March 1939.

A number of animals must have been introduced by people who brought them from the country from time to time. In this category can be named the Common Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) and the Echidna or Native Porcupine (*Tachyglossus aculeatus ineptus*) liberated there by the Museum some years ago and perhaps the Dalgite or Rabbit-eared Bandicoot (*Maerotis lagotis*) which had been run over by a car in August 1926 in Mounts Bay-road.

Among the reptiles the Dugite (*Demansia affinis*), the Tiger Snake (*Notechis seutatus occidentalis*), the Whip Snake (*Demansia psammophis*) and the Little Whip Snake (*Denisonia gouldii*) have been recorded among the snakes. Small Goannas (*Varanus* sp.) have been seen and mistaken for snakes and so also have, because of the rustling they make as they move away, Bobtail Lizards (*Traehysaurus rugosus*), the Adelaide Dragon (*Amphibolurus adelaidensis*), the King's Skink (*Egernia kingii*) and the small diurnal fly-catching skink, *Ablepharus*, to mention but a few of the regular residents.

A careful survey would no doubt add considerably to this list showing how many species had managed to survive in spite of bush fires and human interference.

—L. GLAUERT, W.A. Museum, Perth.

A Recent Observation of the Western Whip-bird.—Although limited observations of the Western Whip-bird (*Psophodes nigrogularis*) have been made in the mallee areas of Victoria, little has been published regarding the recent occurrence and habits of the bird in Western Australia. Serventy & Whittell (*Birds of Western Australia*) state that the last observations are from the Gnowangerup and Borden districts, and that the only calls heard have been a "chitter-chitter, like that of a Southern Scrub-Robin when disturbed at its nest." In Victoria the call has been described as "strange, rattling and staccato, and inclined to be harsh." Other records mention the harsh quality, distinctive from most other bird songs.

The present notes although very brief in nature add to the little previously recorded.

At dawn, on August 30, 1957, after an overnight stop 40 miles west of Ravensthorpe and 75 miles east of Borden, while travelling to Ravensthorpe along the Ongerup-Ravensthorpe road, I went for a walk to investigate the birds of the area. After observing a mixed feeding association of smaller birds a strange call drew my attention. At first I thought only one bird was calling but upon approaching closer I found there were actually two birds. They were excessively shy but after much stalking a satisfactory description was recorded. The most distinct colour pattern in the plumage was a black throat with a narrow white border. White tips to the tail feathers were noticeable in flight, and occasionally a slight crest was erected. These facts together with a more general description also recorded satisfied me that I had come upon some Whip-birds.

As the birds moved through the mallee scrub at about chest height they gave the dual song mentioned earlier. This was made up of 6 to 8 whistling notes, the first call being 3 or 4 notes, immediately answered by a call of similar duration and quality but consisting of different notes. I found that I could quite easily imitate the song in an ordinary whistle.

On occasion the birds were seen to lean farther than normal over the branch they perched upon and to lift their tails slightly. This may have been some form of display associated with breeding, which at that time had probably started (the species is recorded as an early breeder, mid-July to August), or may have been due to the birds becoming unbalanced while perching, cf. the similar tail action of the Kookaburra. As they have previously been recorded more as ground dwellers, reluctant to fly and preferring to run when disturbed, the latter explanation may be quite plausible.

—ERIC LINDGREN, Mt. Barker